Forest

Service

File Code:

1950

Date:

February 12, 2020

Dear Interested Reader

The Emigrant Creek Ranger District, Malheur National Forest is proposing to reduce and remove hazardous fuels in the Loco Wildfire Resilience project area. The Loco Wildfire Resilience categorical exclusion (CE) project is being prepared under guidelines contained in Section 605 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) (16 U.S.C.6591d). The Loco project would utilize thinning (to produce commercial or precommercial products), and salvage for wildfire prevention. Up to 3,000 acres would be treated through commercial timber harvest utilizing ground-based and cable-based systems.

For additional information about this project please contact Lori Bailey or Melissa Ward at 265 Highway 20 South, Hines Oregon 97738, or telephone (541) 573-4300. Questions or comments may also be emailed to <u>comments-pacific northwest-malheur-emigrantcreek@fs.fed.us</u>. For more information about the proposed action, a scoping package can be obtained from the Emigrant Creek District Office in Hines, Oregon or on the Malheur National Forest website at https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57291.

At this time, it is anticipated that this project would be Categorically Excluded from documentation in an EIS or EA pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.4 and FSH 1909.15, Chapter 30. During this scoping phase of the NEPA process, we are seeking input, either verbal or written. We are interested in any issues, concerns or opportunities that you think need to be considered in the development of this project.

Please submit your comments by March 4, 2020 to Lori Bailey or Melissa Ward at 265 Highway 20 South, Hines Oregon 97738, or telephone (541) 573-4300. Comments may also be emailed to comments-pacific northwest-malheur-emigrantcreek@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,



District Ranger



